

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

The specification of the invention have been carefully reviewed and revised to make grammatical and idiomatic improvements in order to aid the Examiner in further consideration of the application. No new matter has been added. Also attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attachment is captioned “**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made.**”

In the Summary of the Office Action of June 6, 2008, it is indicated that none of the priority documents has been received. The agent for Applicants hereby affirms that the certified priority document was submitted to the USPTO on July 7, 2004. Attached herewith is a copy of a postcard upon which the OIPE acknowledges receipt of the certified copy of the priority document, dated July 7, 2004. Consequently, the Examiner is requested to acknowledge receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

In items 4 and 5 of the Office Action, claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-20 are amended herein specifically to address all the points indicated in item 5, as discussed with and approved by the Examiner in the interview of September 4, 2008. Thus, it is believed that this rejection is no longer applicable to the amended claims, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

In items 6 and 7 of the Office Action, claims 1-20 are indicated as being directed to allowable subject matter. Applicants thank the Examiner for this indication.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels that there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Teruo MARUYAMA et al.

/Aldo A. D'Ottavio/

By **2008.09.08 20:17:55 -04'00'**

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